

# Advancing The Kingdom

It is through a grueling process one obtains the identity of a SEAL

SEALs need to know the identity of their enemy– For example, Terrorists, Suicide Bombers

In-between those two identities is a duty/task that SEALs have been given.

SEALs have been commissioned to bring sabotage to the plans of the enemy by advancing freedom.

## Who are you?

**Through a grueling process at the cross of Calvary Christ earned U an identity in Him.**

- Son's and daughters of the Most High
- The redeemed
- A chosen people, special possessions (1 Pet 2:9)

## *Special possession & Special Forces*

**2 Timothy 2:3-5** Describes us as soldiers of Christ.

Who are we soldiering against? We know our identity but what is the identity of our enemy?

## Who is our enemy?

**The ultimate terrorist Satan: *seek, kill and destroy* (John 10:10)**

**The ultimate suicide bomber: (Revelation 20:10)**

**The battlefield is global: The whole world lies under the sway (1 John 5:19)**

In between those two identities is a duty/task given to God's Special Forces

I love the way that C.S. Lewis puts these marching orders:

*“Enemy-occupied territory, that is what this world is but, Christianity is the story of how our rightful King [that's Jesus] has landed you, you might say in disguise and now He is calling us all to take part in His great campaign of sabotage.”*

*That campaign of sabotage is what we have been commissioned with.*

## **The Great Commission**

### **Matthew 28:18-20**

*18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

Our campaign is against the Kingdom of darkness!

Again you see these 2 identities, 2 kingdoms.

### **Primary Weapons (temporal/eternal)**

Our weapon of choice?

*There is no greater weapon to charge the kingdom of darkness with than the Gospel*

*We are engaged in a sort of Chemical Warfare*

**Romans 1:16** It is the power of God unto salvation, it sets captives free and gives life!

Remember Jesus is not only our Savior; He is our Lord!

As Paul asked Jesus on the Damascus road "Lord what would you have me do?"

We ought to ask the same.

And let's not forget our Lord, our Commander's last words before leaving this earth...

It was a command! We have been commanded to fulfill the great commission.

**We shouldn't only feel commanded but compelled to fulfill the great commission.**

### **Depraved Indifference**

#### **Ezekiel 3:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: <sup>18</sup> When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

We are commanded to do it from our Lord. Compelled to do it for the love of the lost.

**Motivation to share the Gospel can come from some pretty unexpected places.**

## Penn Jillette

*"I've always said that I don't respect people who don't evangelize. I don't respect that at all. If you believe that there's a heaven and a hell, and people could be going to hell or not getting eternal life, and you think that it's not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward ... **how much do you have to hate somebody to not evangelize? How much do you have to hate somebody to believe everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?**"*

*"I mean, if I believed, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that a truck was coming at you, and you didn't believe that truck was bearing down on you, there is a certain point where I tackle you. And this is more important than that."*

Remember that is coming from the mouth of an atheist!

You wanna talk about how to start a spiritual conversation in the toughest of situations

Use Penn Jillette

You ———> Enemy ———> Duty ———> The Weapon ———PLO

## PLAN OF ACTION: 4 R'S

1. Realize
2. Recognize
3. Repent
4. Receive

## Starting the spiritual conversation

**Q:** Would you be good enough to get into heaven?

The sticking point is *Sin*. Acknowledged but not appreciated.

**Acknowledged Romans 3:23**

*"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God"*

**But not appreciated**

**Proverbs 20:6**

*"Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness!"*

No appreciation for sin = No appreciation for a Savior  
[Doctor illustration]

Good doctors explain the bad before they talk about the good news.

How can we get their awareness of sin to go up?

## The Law of God

### **Romans 3:19-20**

*“Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”*

If you love them and care for them you will do this!

Love was the motive of Jesus with the rich young ruler!

### **Mark 10:17-22**

17 Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”

18 So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.

19 You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Do not defraud,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’”[c]

20 And he answered and said to Him, “Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth.”

21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.”

22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Love was the motivation.

### **Romans 7:13 –The Law is that which is good**

13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

Take them through the Law by asking them questions.

Lead by asking.

- Have you ever told a lie?
- Have you ever stolen?
- Have you ever used God’s name in vain?

- Have you ever looked with lust?

This helps them to realize the seriousness of their sin and serious need for a Savior.

### **Romans 7:7**

I would not have known sin except through the Law

One more

### **Galatians 3:24**

Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

If you stand before God in the condition you are in it would not look good.

You are guilty of violating God's law

Given heaven or hell, where do you think that violators deserve to go?

## [Court Room Analogy]

### **Assess**

Did you hit the target or are there obstacles and barricades to belief?

### **3 Assessment questions to ask:**

1. Do you believe what I have just shared with you is true?
2. Is there any sin in your life that is worth going to hell over?
3. Can you give me a good reason why you shouldn't get right with God right now?

Leading them in a prayer is essentially the 4 R's

**Assessment question #1** is where you are going to identify barriers, barricades and determine the tools and tactics to be employed.

### **1 Peter 3:15**

*"Always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."*

**Better to have tried and failed than to not have tried at all.**

It is not the critic who counts  
not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles  
or where the doer of deeds could have done them better  
The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena  
whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood  
who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again  
because there is no effort without error and shortcoming  
but who does actually strive to do the deeds  
who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions  
who spends himself in a worthy cause;  
who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement,  
and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place  
shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.  
–Theodore Roosevelt

**CT Studd said:**

*“Only one life, ’twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last. And when I am dying, how happy I’ll be, if the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee.”*

**Let’s burn out not for ourselves but for the Lord.**